
STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

DATE: July 9, 2020
TIME: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Google Meet meet.google.com/ppd-asui-trv
(US) +1 423-657-0063 PIN: 505 169 809#

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Pierpont
Megen Ralphs
Bruce Rigby
Carl Brailsford
Deanna Hopkins
Elizabeth Garbe
Gary Harter
Greg Paras
Jared Haines
Jim Boyd
Kari McKay
Kimberlee Carlile
Lance Lehnhof
Leah Lobato (Sarah Brenna)
Sarah Dansie Jones
Shawn Milne
Shawn Newell
Steve Mullins (Lisa Angotti)
Tannen Ellis Graham
Taylor Smith (Joey Gilbert)
Tony Martines

EXCUSED: Joey Gilbert
Lisa Angotti
Sarah Brenna
Tommy Montoya

ABSENT: Bryan Flake
David Gray
Joseph Carlson
Patricia Tueller
Roger Prewett
Connie Nielsen
Jeff Worthington
Brian Olmstead

STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Thompson
Amira Mijic
Christina Davis
David Busk
Liz Carver
Emily Rosh
Janette Hernandez
John Talcott
Kim Bartel
Laurel Durand
Loggins Merrill
Mahal Roesser
Mark Knold
Melisa Stark
Mike Miller
Pat Miller
Sandy Terry
Yvette Woodland
Zac Whitwell

QUORUM: Yes

1. WELCOME AND OPENING BUSINESS

Board Chair Megen Ralphs called to order the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) virtual meeting on July 9, 2020 at 1:05 p.m.

- A. Board Chair Megen Ralphs updated the Board on Executive Committee discussions.
- B. Board Chair Megen Ralphs welcomed State Representative Cory Maloy and introduced Sarah Jones and James Jackson as new members of the SWDB.

2. GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE REMARKS

Governor's Designee and Executive Director Jon Pierpont reported pandemic response efforts conducted by the Department of Workforce Services per the request from committee members:

- A. The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Division received 234,000 new claims over the first 100 day period of the pandemic compared to a total of 195,000 over the past three years. Total UI benefits paid will surpass \$1 billion this week.
- B. DWS received approval to waive the UI waiting period outlined in SB 3003.
- C. DWS implemented the extension of total UI benefit weeks by 13; set to expire on December 31, 2020.
- D. The Workforce Development Division (WDD) implemented a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program, which benefits self-employed and gig workers; set to expire on December 31, 2020.
- E. The \$600 pandemic stimulus is set to expire on July 25, 2020.
- F. DWS implemented maximum allotments for SNAP households to supplement food benefits for kids eligible for free or reduced lunch for the time period during which school was closed and implemented SNAP online purchases.
- G. DWS received approval to adopt a Pandemic EBT program for eligible children to receive free and reduced meals; retroactive to March 16, 2020.
- H. DWS modified its service delivery to accommodate virtual services and telework during the height of the pandemic.
- I. The Refugee Services Division continues its efforts to communicate available services, resources, information about COVID-19, and has provided approximately 6,000 services to the refugee community.
- J. The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) implemented additional cross training and customer outreach.
- K. The Veteran Services division began offering virtual workshops twice a week, military training conversion and skills workshops, weekly engagements with the National Guard, and additional assistance for military spouses.
- L. Virtual Job Fairs were held in April and June. The next job fair is scheduled on July 30, 2020. More virtual job fairs to come in August and September. Veteran Services will hold a veteran-specific job fair. **Action Item: Please reach out to any DWS staff person if you would like to participate in upcoming job fairs.**
- M.

- N. The Housing and Community Development Division (HCD) implemented a Housing/Rental Assistance Program for those at risk of losing their homes due to COVID-19.
- O. The Office of Child Care implemented free childcare for healthcare and public safety professionals.
- P. DWS released grants to help child care providers remain in business and implemented the following temporary program changes: increase in eligibility income threshold; waive copayments for subsidiary recipients; and enrollment-based payments to providers.
- Q. DWS participates on the multicultural commission and translated all materials to Spanish to improve outreach in Hispanic communities.

3. ECONOMIC UPDATE

Chief Economic Mark Knold presented the [Economic Update](#).

4. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH

Director Loggins Merrill summarized highlights from the [Quarterly Workforce Development Outreach Update](#).

5. COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSION

Committee Chairs and Board Members presented updates to the Board from their respective Subcommittees of the SWDB.

A. APPRENTICESHIPS COMMITTEE

- i. Apprenticeship Commissioner Melisa Stark discussed an apprenticeship grant created to help develop system enhancements that identify and connect apprenticeships with customers.
- ii. Apprenticeship Commissioner Melisa Stark reported that DWS will continue to accept apprenticeship applications and described efforts to develop nationwide cybersecurity apprenticeships with a technical assistance partner.
- iii. DWS will continue to hold the Annual Apprenticeship Fair.
- iv. Apprenticeship Commissioner Melisa Stark discussed the apprenticeship landscape in Utah and registered Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs (IRAP).

B. YOUTH COMMITTEE

- i. Senior Business Analyst Kim Bartel reported a new partnership with Launch High School in Iron County to develop training videos for workshops or as standalone videos that help prepare youth entering the workforce; students will help develop film scripts.

C. SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

- i. Director Leah Lobato discussed planning efforts to hold the Golden Key Awards virtually.
- ii. Golden Key Award nominations and scholarship applications are under review.
- iii. The Employer Workshop will be held virtually in September.
- iv. USOR is currently working with WDD to hold a virtual Workability Job Fair.

D. CAREER PATHWAYS

- i. Board Member and Committee Chair Jim Boyd announced two new workgroups formed to create a centralized information path that addresses disjointed areas in employment pathways and a communication plan workgroup to improve the quality of warm hand-offs.

E. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

- i. Board Member and Committee Chair Gary Harter thanked the SWDB, DWS and Chief of Veteran Services, discussed the upcoming virtual certifications, and called for SWDB members to participate in the upcoming virtual recertification of Tooele.
- ii. Board Member and Co-Chair Deanna Hopkins reported that the Committee will continue using Survey Monkey as its service delivery method for the Employer Survey.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Committee Chair Megan Ralphs welcomed Board Member Sarah Jones, who provided a brief introduction, then called for new business and provided final updates to the SWDB.
 - i. The updated WIOA Plan was approved.
 - ii. The One Stop Memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed.
 - iii. The Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA) is out for signatures and approval.
- B. Board Member Elizabeth Garbe announced a partnership between United Way of Salt Lake and the [Stay Safe, Stay Connected Initiative](#) and the need for additional partners.
- C. Board Member Elizabeth Garbe reported that approximately 50% of students have not connected with their schools since March 2020 and discussed concerns around the digital divide.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Megan Ralphs called for a motion to adjourn the SWDB virtual meeting on July 9, 2020 at 2:27 p.m.

MOTION: Gary Harter